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of Nebraska cares about kids, cares about mentoring. Establish mentoring programs. Big Brothers, Big Sisters, they need more money. With all the private money they raise, they can't get to all the kids that need help. Tom Osborne's TeamMates, with all the money that guy can raise, he can't get to all the kids that need help. And this is the state's way of saying we, too, think mentoring is important. We, too, want to help eighth graders who are in single parent families, seventh graders, sixth graders. You know fatherless children are significantly more likely to dropout, to get into criminal activity, to get involved with drugs. I'll give you the statistics, if you want And half of our children today are growing up without both parents. This gives us an opportunity to help on the front end, before we have to spend the money on bricks and mortar. thousand dollars in appropriation for this Five hundred And recognize, this has dropped down significantly biennium. from where I initially tried to do it in the Education Committee, with \$2 million. We had four votes for \$1 million, I don't know what we would have gotten for half a million dollars, maybe not enough votes to get it out. But I intend to keep trying, because I think this is a fiscal conservatives bill. This is the kind of bill where you spend the money on the front end, you save it on the back. So I'm anxious to see what this body has to say about this. With that, I yield my time back to the Chair.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I had Senator Bruning's amendment pulled up on this gadget for me, and Senator Bruning, I'd like to ask you a question.

SENATOR BRUNING: Yes, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Where in your amendment does it refer to mentoring, because I just see about three or four lines on here about striking something and moving it someplace else.

SENATOR BRUNING: Well, the amendment actually was a work in progress as we handed it in, so I can't tell you, I don't have it in front of me right now.